

**STAFF MEETING MINUTES
LANCASTER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
COUNTY-CITY BUILDING
ROOM 113
THURSDAY, MAY 12, 2005
8:00 A.M.**

Commissioners Present: Larry Hudkins, Chair
Deb Schorr, Vice Chair
Bernie Heier
Bob Workman
Ray Stevens

Others Present: Kerry Eagan, Chief Administrative Officer
Gwen Thorpe, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer
Trish Owen, Chief Deputy County Clerk
Ann Taylor, County Clerk's Office

The Chair opened the meeting at 8:02 a.m.

AGENDA ITEM

**1 APPROVAL OF THE STAFF MEETING MINUTES OF THURSDAY,
MAY 5, 2005**

MOTION: Stevens moved and Heier seconded approval of the Staff Meeting minutes dated May 5, 2005. Workman, Heier, Stevens and Hudkins voted aye. Motion carried.

2 ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

None were stated.

3 BUDGET UPDATE - Dave Kroeker, Budget & Fiscal Officer

Dave Kroeker, Budget & Fiscal Officer, gave an overview of the following documents (Exhibits A & B):

- Lancaster County, Comparison FY06 to FY05 Expense Budget
- Lancaster County, Comparison FY06 to FY05 Revenue Budget
- Lancaster County, Property Tax Funded Budgets, FY06 Requested Budget Compared to FY05 Adopted

Schorr arrived at 8:06 a.m.

- Statement of Bonded Debt and Payments Required
- Major Changes Property Tax Impact - FY06 Budget Request
- Lancaster County, FY05 Projected Additional Appropriations, Mid-Year FY05 Budget Review
- Lancaster County, FY04 Additional Appropriations Requests
- Personal Service Costs
- General Fund Miscellaneous, Justice System (628)

The Board requested information from the County Sheriff's Office on how drug forfeiture funds are used.

- General Fund Miscellaneous, Health & Human Services (805)

Kroeker said the percentage of change indicated for joint agreements with the City and contracts with private agencies are estimates.

- General Fund Miscellaneous, General Government (612)

The Chair asked Kroeker to check on why there was a 14.71% increase in Official Bonds (Object No. 65950).

- Keno Fund, FY05 Proposed Keno Fund Budget

Kroeker said \$100,000 needs to be earmarked for the Jamaica North Trail.

- Lancaster County, Building Fund Budget Fund 051
- Revised Budget Calendar for Fiscal Year 2006
- FY05 Valuations & Tax Rates
- Lancaster County, Calculation of Restricted Funds
- Lancaster County, Change in Taxable Assessed Valuation, Last Ten Years
- Lancaster County, Historical Valuations and Levies

4 LEGISLATIVE UPDATE - Gordon Kissel, Legislative Consultant; Amy Prenda, Director of Legal Research and Analysis for Kissel/E&S Associates

Gordon Kissel, Legislative Consultant, gave a legislative update (Exhibit C), noting LB 425 (the mainline budget bill) was advanced with the addition of \$800,000 for jail reimbursement for counties. He said he is in the process of setting up a meeting with the Governor to ask him not to veto the increase and suggested that the Board send a representative.

Kissel suggested that the Board also meet with Senator Byars to discuss funding of development disabilities.

Schorr said when LB 1083 (Adopt the Nebraska Behavioral Health Services Act) was set-up fiscally last year it was stated there would be no financial impact to counties. She said there are now indications that a county match will be required.

Board consensus was to ask Terry Wagner, Lancaster County Sheriff, to track arrests of mental health patients and to ask Mike Thurber, Corrections Director, and Travis Parker, Mental Health Jail Diversion Project Director, to track the number of related jail days. The Board also requested a briefing by members of the LB 1083 Behavioral Health Advisory Committee.

5 BOARD OF CORRECTIONS QUARTERLY MEETING - Mike Thurber, Corrections Director

Separate minutes.

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER REPORT

A. Tuesday Morning Staff Meeting for Planning Department Projects

The Board scheduled a Staff Meeting on Tuesday, May 24, 2005 (9 a.m.) and Tuesday, June 7 (10 a.m.) to discuss the following issues: 1) Subarea Plan for the Bennet area; 2) Transfer of Development Rights; 3) Lakeside Development; and 4) Overlapping jurisdictional lines.

Heier expressed concern regarding a statement by Mike DeKalb, Planning Department, at the Tuesday, May 10, 2005 Board of Commissioners Meeting that the most restrictive measures are applied when there is dual jurisdiction. He said the County Board has not adopted "build-through" design standards (guidelines allowing for future acreage development to be converted to an urban-style configuration when they are brought into the City) and requested a legal opinion on the issue.

Kerry Eagan, Chief Administrative Officer, said he believes a legal opinion has been issued.

B. Cell Phone and Wireless Contracts

Board consensus was to have Gwen Thorpe, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer, draft a policy to address use of cellular phones and other wireless devices.

E. Independent Appraisal of County Commissioners' Properties

MOTION: Schorr moved and Heier seconded reconsideration of the issue. Heier, Stevens, Schorr and Hudkins voted aye. Workman voted no. Motion carried.

General discussion was held regarding whether the Commissioners should have independent appraisals of their properties and whether it is appropriate to pay for the appraisals out of the Board of Equalization budget.

MOTION: Schorr moved and Stevens seconded to follow the County Assessor's recommendation and request independent appraisals of the County Commissioners' individual residences. Schorr, Heier and Stevens voted aye. Workman and Hudkins voted no. Motion carried.

Commissioners Stevens and Heier indicated that they will pay for their individual appraisals.

6 BLOOD CHEMISTRY PROFILES FOR COUNTY EMPLOYEES - Sue Eckley, Workers' Compensation & Risk Management Manager

Sue Eckley, Workers' Compensation & Risk Management Manager, said there are sufficient funds in the Wellness Budget to pay for the blood chemistry profiles that are offered through the County's health insurance plan.

MOTION: Schorr moved and Heier seconded to authorize payment of the next round of blood chemistry profiles for county employees, to be paid for out of the Wellness Budget. Schorr, Heier, Workman and Hudkins voted aye. Stevens voted no. Motion carried.

MOTION: Schorr moved and Stevens seconded to authorize an employee paycheck insert publicizing the blood chemistry profiles. Workman, Heier, Stevens, Schorr and Hudkins voted aye. Motion carried.

7 STATE FAIR LOTTERY FUNDING PROJECTS AND EXPENDITURES - Richard Bjorklund, Nebraska State Fair Executive Director; Joseph McDermott, Assistant Executive Director

Richard Bjorklund, Nebraska State Fair Executive Director, gave an overview of timing of receipts/expenditures for lottery proceeds (Exhibit D).

Heier exited the meeting at 10:00 a.m.

Joseph McDermott, Assistant Executive Director, said the State Fair Board's long-term priorities are as follows: 1) Research and planning; 2) Capital improvements; and 3) Fair programming.

Schorr recommended that the State Fair Board utilize the Randall Travel Marketing Study, which outlines tourism planning for Lancaster County.

8 JOINT PUBLIC AGENCY (JPA) FOR RURAL TO URBAN TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM - Don Thomas, County Engineer; Roger Figard, City Engineer; Dave Kroeker, Budget & Fiscal Officer, Don Herz, City Finance Director

Extensive discussion was held regarding how to finance the Rural-to-Urban Transition Streets (RUTS) Program and right-of-way acquisition for the East Beltway. It is estimated that \$2 million to \$3 million is needed, with \$1.5 million needed initially to start the program. Options include:

- Enter into an interlocal agreement to adopt right-of-way and construction standards for unopened and unimproved mile and ½ mile line county roads located within the three-mile zoning jurisdiction of the City of Lincoln.
- Form a Joint Public Agency (JPA) and levy a tax of 1 cent per \$100 of valuation (estimated to generate \$1.5 million annually). The City and County would each contribute 1% of levy authority (the tax would be uniform rate throughout the City and County). As an alternative, it was suggested that the City and County each contribute 0.5 cent of levy authority and that the City contribute an additional 0.5 cent of levy authority, through an interlocal agreement, to make the funding more equitable.
- Enter into an interlocal agreement with the City and County each levying a tax of 1 cent per \$100 of valuation (estimated to generate \$2.8 million annually).
- Pursue legislation to amend the state statutes on gasoline tax.
- Extend the City's wheel tax to the rest of Lancaster County (estimated to generate \$1.8 million annually) (see Exhibit E). An exemption for farm and/or commercial vehicles was suggested.

Board consensus was to use a draft of Joint Public Agency Agreement Creating the City of Lincoln - Lancaster County Joint Transportation Agency (Exhibit F) as a model, clarifying funding options and providing for implementation this budget year.

The Board asked that additional discussion be scheduled on the June 6, 2005 City-County Common Meeting agenda.

9 LABOR NEGOTIATIONS - Don Taute, Personnel Director; John Cripe, Classification and Pay Manager; Tom Fox, Deputy County Attorney

MOTION: Schorr moved and Workman seconded to enter Executive Session at 11:03 a.m. for discussion of labor negotiations. Workman, Stevens, Schorr and Hudkins voted aye. Heier was absent from voting. Motion carried.

MOTION: Stevens moved and Schorr seconded to exit Executive Session at 11:11 a.m. Workman, Stevens, Schorr and Hudkins voted aye. Heier was absent from voting. Motion carried.

10 ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICE AGREEMENT AND AMENDMENT TO HEALTH PLAN WITH UNITED HEALTHCARE FOR HEALTH INSURANCE PORTABILITY & ACCOUNTABILITY ACT (HIPAA) SECURITY - Tom Fox, Deputy County Attorney

Tom Fox, Deputy County Attorney, gave a brief overview of the documents.

11 ACTION ITEMS

- A. Microcomputer Request, \$1,089.32 from the Microcomputer Fund for One (1) Pentium IV and Software for the County Court Administrator

MOTION: Stevens moved and Workman seconded approval. Workman, Stevens, Schorr and Hudkins voted aye. Heier was absent from voting. Motion carried.

12 ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER REPORT

- A. Tuesday Morning Staff Meeting for Planning Department Projects
- B. Cell Phone and Wireless Contracts

Items A and B were moved forward on the agenda.

- C. Pension Summary Plan Booklets and Certified Financial Planner

Board consensus was to: 1) Have Nationwide Retirement Solutions (NRS) mail the Pension Summary Plan Booklets directly to plan participants; and 2) Ask the Pension Review Committee to review NRS's offer of a certified financial planner's services and suggest that consideration be given to an incentive for participants.

D. Records Project for City of Norfolk

Board consensus was to allow Brian Pillard, Records & Information Manager, to prepare a cost estimate for the project, stipulating that a measure of profit must be built in and that the project must not interfere with other work.

E. Independent Appraisal of County Commissioner's Properties

Item moved forward on the agenda.

13 DISCUSSION OF BOARD MEMBER MEETINGS

A. Monthly Meeting of County Board Chair/Vice Chair and Mayor -
Hudkins, Heier

Hudkins said the Mayor indicated that the City does not have the funds to finish the third floor of the City-County Building at this time. The Mayor also indicated that the "K" Street Building will be kept on the City's property surplus list.

B. Parks & Recreation Advisory Board - Stevens

Stevens said the City is looking to reinvest proceeds from the sale of land for the Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department expansion project by acquiring additional park space.

C. Region V Governing Board - Schorr

Schorr said the budget and Emergency Protective Custody (EPC) agreement were approved.

D. Monthly Meeting of Public Building Commission Chair/Vice Chair and
Mayor - Hudkins

See Item 15A.

E. Public Building Commission (PBC) - Hudkins, Workman

Hudkins reported said the new chairs for the Chambers dais were delivered.

F. Board of Health - Hudkins

Hudkins said the focus was on strategic planning.

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

MOTION: Stevens moved and Schorr seconded to add a memorandum from Trish Owen, Chief Deputy County Clerk, relating to the oath of office for Deputy Sheriff's to the agenda. Workman, Stevens, Schorr and Hudkins voted aye. Heier was absent from voting. Motion carried.

A. Memorandum from Trish Owen, Chief Deputy County Clerk, Regarding Oath of Office for Deputy Sheriff's (Exhibit G)

MOTION: Stevens moved and Workman seconded to accept the recommendation from Trish Owen, Chief Deputy County Clerk, and consider having new Deputy Sheriff's take their oath in front of the County Board of Commissioners at a Tuesday, Board of Commissioners Meeting. Stevens, Schorr, Workman and Hudkins voted aye. Motion carried.

14 ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Schorr moved and Workman seconded to adjourn the meeting at 11:31 a.m. Workman, Schorr, Stevens and Hudkins voted aye. Motion carried.

Bruce Medcalf
Lancaster County Clerk